

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/088,487
Response dated April 6, 2004
Reply to OA of January 12, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

Claim 1 has been amended herein, to more clearly set forth the invention. No new matter has been added.

In view of the amendment to claim 1 and the remarks set forth below, further and favorable consideration, is respectfully requested.

I. At page 2 of the Office Action, claim 1-9 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Examiner states that the inclusion of parenthetical subject matter in the last two lines of claim 1, renders the scope of claim 1 indefinite. The Examiner further states that claims 1-9 would be allowable if claim 1 were rewritten or amended to overcome the indefiniteness rejection.

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to remove the parenthesis and to more clearly set forth the invention.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, it is submitted that the claims are clear and definite within the meaning of 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

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If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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